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Serial No.: 10/027125
Art Unit: 2116
Examiner: Stoynov
Docket No.: AUS9 2001 0614 US1

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-8 (canceled).

9 (currently amended). A method for energy management, said method comprising:
determining a value for an energy condition affecting at least one computer in a cluster;
updating said value continuously;
comparing said value with a predefined limit regarding said energy condition;
based on said determining, said updating, and said comparing, utilizing at least one
energy mode chosen from:
storing energy;
operating said at least one computer on stored energy;
operating said at least one computer on external energy; and
standing by; and
performing said determining, said updating, and said comparing, for a plurality of energy
conditions.

10 (original). The method of Claim 9, wherein said determining further comprises at least one of:
determining a time of day;
determining a price of energy;
determining a rate of energy consumption; and
determining an amount of stored energy.

11 (original). The method of Claim 9, wherein:
said energy condition is a price for energy; and
said utilizing further comprises said operating on stored energy, when said price is greater
than said predefined limit.

12 (original). The method of Claim 9, wherein:
said energy condition is a price for energy; and
said utilizing further comprises said storing energy, when said price is less than said
predefined limit.

13 (original). The method of Claim 9, wherein:
said energy condition is a price for energy; and
said utilizing further comprises said operating on external energy, when said price is less
than said predefined limit.

14 (original). The method of Claim 9, wherein:
said energy condition is a rate of energy consumption; and

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said utilizing further comprises said operating on stored energy, when said rate is greater than said predefined limit.

15 (original). The method of Claim 9, wherein:

said energy condition is a rate of energy consumption; and
said utilizing further comprises said storing energy, when said rate is less than said predefined limit.

16 (original). The method of Claim 9, wherein:

said energy condition is a rate of energy consumption; and
said utilizing further comprises said operating on external energy, when said rate is less than said predefined limit.

17 (original). The method of Claim 9, wherein:

said energy condition is an amount of stored energy; and
said utilizing further comprises said storing energy, when said amount is less than said predefined limit.

18 (canceled).

19 (currently amended). A system for energy management, said system comprising:

means for determining a value for an energy condition affecting at least one computer in a cluster;

means for updating said value continuously;

means for comparing said value with a predefined limit regarding said energy condition; and

means, responsive to said means for determining, said means for updating, and said means for comparing, for utilizing at least one energy mode;

means for storing energy; and

means for operating said at least one computer on stored energy;

further wherein said means for determining, said means for updating, and said means for comparing, are operative for a plurality of energy conditions.

20 (original). The system of Claim 19, wherein said means for determining further comprises at least one of:

means for determining a time of day;

means for determining a price of energy;

means for determining a rate of energy consumption; and

means for determining an amount of stored energy.

21 (original). The system of Claim 19, wherein:

said means for determining further comprises means for determining a price for energy; and

said means for operating on stored energy is employed when said price is greater than said predefined limit.

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22 (original). The system of Claim 19, wherein:
said means for determining further comprises means for determining a price for energy;
and
said means for storing energy is employed when said price is less than said predefined limit.

23 (original). The system of Claim 19, wherein:
said means for determining further comprises means for determining a price for energy;
and
said utilizing further comprises means for operating on external energy, when said price is less than said predefined limit.

24 (original). The system of Claim 19, wherein:
said means for determining further comprises means for determining a rate of energy consumption; and
said means for operating on stored energy is employed when said rate is greater than said predefined limit.

25 (original). The system of Claim 19, wherein:
said means for determining further comprises means for determining a rate of energy consumption; and
said means for storing energy is employed when said rate is less than said predefined limit.

26 (original). The system of Claim 19, wherein:
said means for determining further comprises means for determining a rate of energy consumption; and
said means for utilizing further comprises means for operating on external energy, when said rate is less than said predefined limit.

27 (original). The system of Claim 19, wherein:
said means for determining further comprises means for determining an amount of stored energy; and
said means for storing energy is employed when said amount is less than said predefined limit.

28 (canceled).

29 (currently amended). A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for energy management, said computer-executable instructions comprising:
means for determining a value for an energy condition affecting at least one computer in a cluster;
means for updating said value continuously;
means for comparing said value with a predefined limit regarding said energy condition;

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and
means, responsive to said means for determining, said means for updating, and said
means for comparing, for utilizing at least one energy mode;
means for storing energy; and
means for operating said at least one computer on stored energy;
wherein said means for determining, said means for updating, and said means for
comparing, are operative for a plurality of energy conditions.

30 (original). The computer-readable medium of Claim 29, wherein said means for determining further comprises at least one of:

means for determining a time of day;
means for determining a price of energy;
means for determining a rate of energy consumption; and
means for determining an amount of stored energy.

31 (original). The computer-readable medium of Claim 29, wherein:

said means for determining further comprises means for determining a price for energy;
and
said means for operating on stored energy is employed when said price is greater than
said predefined limit.

32 (original). The computer-readable medium of Claim 29, wherein:

said means for determining further comprises means for determining a price for energy;
and
said means for storing energy is employed when said price is less than said predefined
limit.

33 (original). The computer-readable medium of Claim 29, wherein:

said means for determining further comprises means for determining a price for energy;
and
said utilizing further comprises means for operating on external energy, when said price is
less than said predefined limit.

34 (original). The computer-readable medium of Claim 29, wherein:

said means for determining further comprises means for determining a rate of energy
consumption; and
said means for operating on stored energy is employed when said rate is greater than said
predefined limit.

35 (original). The computer-readable medium of Claim 29, wherein:

said means for determining further comprises means for determining a rate of energy
consumption; and
said means for storing energy is employed when said rate is less than said predefined
limit.

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36 (original). The computer-readable medium of Claim 29, wherein:

said means for determining further comprises means for determining a rate of energy

consumption; and

said means for utilizing further comprises means for operating on external energy, when
said rate is less than said predefined limit.

37 (original). The computer-readable medium of Claim 29, wherein:

said means for determining further comprises means for determining an amount of stored
energy; and

said means for storing energy is employed when said amount is less than said predefined
limit.

38 (canceled).